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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **U.S. GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES NEW INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM CENTER AT BRAC**

**DHAKA, MAY 07 --** Mr. Abul Kalam Azad, Bangladesh Minister for Information and Cultural Affairs, inaugurated a U.S. Government-funded investigative journalism center today. The Journalism Training and Research Initiative (JATRI) at BRAC University's Institute of Governance Studies will develop and promote investigative journalism in Bangladesh. USAID Mission Director Denise Rollins and the Vice Chancellor of BRAC University, Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury, also spoke at the launch.

The U.S. Government, through USAID, supports JATRI as part of the \$18 million Promoting Governance, Accountability, Transparency and Integrity (PROGATI) project. JATRI will become a center of excellence for advanced training and education on in-depth news reporting, analysis and research. The center will strengthen the quality of investigative journalism in Bangladesh and develop a cadre of investigative reporters. JATRI will offer training to journalists on a range of topics, conduct research, organize public discussions, offer fellowships and house a state-of-the-art journalism resource center. It will also promote the use of international best practices and standards of investigative reporting among media professionals.

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*Note: A Bangla translation of this press release is also available at the American Center. If you are interested in the translation, please call the American Center Press Section, Tel: 8837150-4, Fax: 9885688; e-mail: [DhakaPA@state.gov](mailto:DhakaPA@state.gov); Website: <http://dhaka.usembassy.gov>*